Payment of Wages Act, 1936 which is enforced by the State Governments except only in Mines, Air transport service and Railways.

(b) and (c) In order to detect any irregularities, the Central Government through its officers notified as inspectors, carry out regular inspections and violations of the law are brought to light.

(d) The steps taken by the Central Government to remedy the situation by enforcing the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 and the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 include inspection of the establishments, prosecution of the errant/defaulting employers/ contractors and pursuing the cases in the courts of law for conviction of the offenders. Details of the steps taken by the Central Government during the last 3 years under the said two Acts are enclosed as Statement-I and Statement-II respectively.

Statement-I

Details of the steps taken by Central Government during last three years under Enforcement of Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970

Year	No. of inspections under Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act	No. of irregularities detected	Prosecutions launched	Convictions
2005-06	5759	60206	2991	1017
2006-07	5365	77422	2648	887
2007-08	6843	104401	3675	1228

Statement-II

Details of steps taken by Central Government during last three years under Minimum Wages Act, 1948

Year	No. of inspections conducted	No. of prosecutions launched	No. of cases disposed of	No. of claim cases b/fd	No. of claim cases filed	No. of claim cases decided	Amount awarded (Rs.)
2004-05	17,188	6,267	3,235	4,248	3,471	4,507	3,76,84,296
2005-06	12,392	4,620	4,643	3,526	2,543	3,434	3,64,16,655
2006-07	15,147	5,692	4,942	2,635	1,706	1,860	2,04,20,540

Unemployment status in the country

952. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new study has been conducted by any agency of the Government to collect the present status of unemployment in the country due to the recession;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has formulated any programme to eradicate unemployment by promoting labour based industries during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by Government thereon; and

(e) the scheme formulated and funds allocated for generating additional employment opportunities in order to reduce the unemployment rate in the country during the Eleventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. With a view to assess impact of economic slowdown on employment in the industries/sectors presumed to be adversely affected by the slowdown during the quarter October-December, 2008, Ministry of Labour and Employment carried out a survey in important sectors, *viz.* Mining, Textiles, Metals, Gems and Jewellery, Automobile, Transport and IT/BPO. These sectors contributed more than 60% to GDP in the year 2007-08. It has been revealed that about half a million workers have lost their jobs during October-December, 2008. The major impact of the slowdown is noticed in the export oriented units.

Department of Commerce, Government of India have been undertaking sample surveys relating to reduction in exports and resultant job losses in export-related industries. In the updated sample survey on job losses for export-related industries for August, 2008 to 16 January, 2009, out of 402 units surveyed, the loss in export orders is around Rs. 6272 crores and loss of 1,09,513 jobs.

(c) and (d) The Eleventh Five Year Plan contains following important policy initiatives for generation of employment:—

(i) In order to make growth more inclusive, it is vital that more people gain access to more productive assets with which they can themselves generate decent incomes and also that GDP growth generates sufficient demand for wage labour so that those who cannot be self-employed are employed at decent wages.

(ii) Targeting faster growth in GDP and doubling of agriculture growth will help in this process. Besides, additional employment opportunities would be generated in the services and manufacturing sectors. Measures would need be taken to boost labour intensive manufacturing sectors such as food processing, leather products, footwear and textiles and service sectors such as tourism and construction.

(iii) Village and small scale enterprises (VSE) will provide most of the new employment opportunities during the Eleventh Plan.

(e) Government of India is implementing various employment generation schemes for generating additional employment in Rural and Urban areas as details given below:—

As per Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, under the scheme of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), annual physical target for the number of urban poor to be assisted for setting up individual/group micro enterprises and number of urban poor to be imparted skill training are fixed at the national level on the basis of financial allocation made for the scheme in the Annual Plan/Budget.

A new scheme called 'Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP)' started in August, 2008 for 2008-09 to 2012-13 is being implemented with an estimated expenditure of Rs. 4735 crore towards margin money and Rs. 250 crore towards backward forward linkages with the target for generation of 37.37 lakh additional employment opportunities.

Recognizing the serious problem of unemployment, the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) was enacted on 7.9.2005. NREGA provides for the enhancement of livelihood security of the households in rural areas of the country by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. A very significant feature of this Act is that if a worker who has applied for work under NREGA is not provided employment within 15 days from the date on which work is requested, an unemployment allowance shall be payable by the State Government at the rate prescribed in the Act.

Shortage of skilled manpower

953. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. MABEL REBELLO:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is facing shortage of skilled manpower and Government has set an ambitious goal of having 500 million trained technicians by 2020;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to open up the public stock of buildings of educational institutions at the high school level and above after class hours for those agencies which are engaged in skill development of our youth; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) No such survey have been conducted by Ministry of Labour and Employment. However, as per National sample survey organization (NSSO) 61st round survey report, every year 12.8 million persons are added to the labour force. However, at present about 3.1 million persons are trained by various agencies involved in vocational training.